

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract filed in the application with the following paragraph:

-- A method and apparatus for managing distributed statistical data retrieval in a network device are disclosed. Periodically, statistical data is gathered by processes on one or more remote cards in a network device and transferred to a central process. The statistical data may include, for example, management/historical data including accounting, performance, security and fault logging data (or some portion thereof). Current data samples may be gathered and sent to the central process on a frequent interval of, for example, every 15 minutes. In addition, as each current data sample is gathered it may be added to a data summary. The data summary may be cleared periodically, for example, every 24 hours, such that the data summary provides a cumulative summary of current data samples gathered over that 24 hour period of time. To reduce bandwidth utilization, the data summary may only be transferred to the central process on a more infrequent interval. --